

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service



News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture 4050 Crums Mill Road, Suite 203 · Harrisburg, PA 17112-2875

<u>Upcoming survey</u> information is contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at www.nass.usda.gov/pa/ and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

USDA/NASS to Conduct Annual Mushroom Survey

HARRISBURG, PA, May 11, 2012 - - USDA/NASS is again conducting the Mushroom Inquiry to document the past growing year. All mushroom growers will be contacted about growing area, production, and value of sales for the growing year of 2011 to 2012, as well as growing intentions for the coming year. Growers should receive a questionnaire around July 1st. If you do not receive a questionnaire, please contact the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA/NASS at 800-498-1518 or the NASS Headquarters at 800-727-9540. Those not responding by mail will be contacted either by phone or in person during early July.

It is important that all mushroom growers participate in the Mushroom Survey so that accurate statistics on the mushroom industry are published. Mushroom statistics are used to help support the industry in many ways. All individual operation information is kept confidential and protected from freedom of information act requests.

Pennsylvania growers led all states by producing 548.8 million pounds, or 65 percent of all U.S. Agaricus mushrooms sold during the 2010-2011 growing season. Pennsylvania's production is up 9 percent from last year. Pennsylvania growers received, on average, 88.8 cents per pound for all Agaricus mushroom sales, up 1.2 cents from the previous year. Pennsylvania's Agaricus crop was valued at \$487.1 million.

These figures were taken from the 2011 U.S. Department of Agriculture's, National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA/NASS) Mushroom Report. The entire report is available via the internet at http://www.nass.usda.gov. This year's survey results will be available on August 20, 2012, at 3:00 p.m.

All growers who complete the mushroom questionnaire will receive a copy of the release for their records. Additional information about the Pennsylvania Mushroom Report can be obtained by contacting the Pennsylvania Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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